

Current Events

9/9/2010

Mrs. Ruthman

The 1st 2 slides provide basic information to explain the issue/event

Florida Church Plans 9/11 Koran Burning



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-11223457>

- Dove World Outreach Center, 50 members
- Terry Jones, pastor, *Islam is of the Devil*
- plan to burn hundreds- supporters mailing in Korans
- security concerns



http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/in_pictures/3833423.stm

Koran holy book “bible” of Islam

Jones says Koran is evil because it promotes something different from Christian biblical truth and promotes radical, violent behavior among Muslims.

Also claims this is not targeted at moderate Muslims, but only the radical extremists.

Church’s website has list of “Ten Reasons to Burn a Koran”

He’s had many death threats, over 100 and has started carrying pistol

announced plan in July and has been getting copies mailed by supporter ever since

city has denied them permut for open-air bonfire but plan to go ahead

The 1st 2 slides provide basic information to explain the issue/event

Negative Responses



http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703713504575475500753093116.html?mod=WSJ_hpp_MIDDLENexttoWhatsNewsSecond

- Large protests in Indonesia, Afghanistan
- Many Christian, Jewish and Muslim groups in Florida planning positive, inclusive events

- criticism from Muslim countries, US officials, religious leaders
- Church not backing down- “a message we have been called to bring forth”



Sec. of State Hillary Clinton has spoken out against the plan.
<http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/09/08/florida.quran.burning/index.html?hpt=T2>

Each slide must include at least one image. Images should be cited with the URL next to them

In protests in Kabul 500 people burned Jones in effigy, chanted “Death to America” and “Long live Islam” threw rocks at passing US Army convoy

Many churches etc. planning to read Koran passages and discuss at weekend services. Student group is organizing a rally across street from the Church to denounce hate and promote tolerance and diversity

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder calls it “idiotic and dangerous”

Hillary Clinton spoke at an Islamic feast she attended this week (it’s Ramadan) and criticized the plan

So far the group is not backing down- say they believe it is a message they have been called to spread

Significance for US troops

- General David Petraus, US commander in Afghanistan gave warning
- 120,000 troops in Afghanistan-endangered
- Taliban will stir up more US-hatred
- Afghans don't understand our 1st Amendment
- Past incidents sparked violence



General David Petraus
http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703713504575475500753093116.html?mod=WSJ_hpp_MIDDLENexttoWhatsNewsSecond

You must have at least one slide that explains the lasting significance of the story

The US/NATO soldiers job is to protect Afghan civilians from the Taliban, but Taliban will use this to convince those people we are against them not for the,, could push more Afghan civilians to join Taliban & work against us

Petraus compared what the church is planning to what the Taliban does. Said we should be above them. This could cause major problems everywhere in the world where we work with big Muslim populations, not just in Afghanistan

Very unusual for Petraus to make this statement- Mil officials don't usually get involved in political debates- so his statements show the urgency of this and it is hoped that this will create much pressure for the group to call it off. So far they are refusing.

White House spokesmen issued statements after Petraus' saying the plan is un-American because it puts our troops in harm's way

Americans other westerners in Afghanistan have been warned by embassey officials to stay out of restaurants and other public places

Afghans don't understand free speech rights or that our President can't simply order the group not to do this.

Earlier this year NATO troops in regular trainging mission- were doing a locker check of an Afghan soldiers and a Koran fell out of a locker onto the floor. Rumor spread that the NATO soldier had purposely dropped it to show disrespect- led to major tension between US troops and the Afghans there are supposed to train.

Even worse, in 2005 Newsweek published a story about US military interrogators at Guantanamo flushing Korans down toilet as part of aggressive interrogation techniques. Caused riots in Afghanistan- some peopel were killed. Story turned out to be false.

Significance for American Muslims

Republicans, Older People,
Less Educated Are Less
Favorable Toward Islam

| | Favorable % | Unfavorable % | DK |
|-------------|----------------|------------------|--------|
| Total | 30 | 38 | 32=100 |
| 18-29 | 35 | 33 | 32=100 |
| 30-49 | 34 | 35 | 31=100 |
| 50-64 | 27 | 40 | 32=100 |
| 65+ | 20 | 49 | 31=100 |
| Coll grad+ | 47 | 28 | 25=100 |
| Some coll | 29 | 37 | 34=100 |
| HS or less | 20 | 45 | 35=100 |
| Republican | 21 | 54 | 25=100 |
| Democrat | 41 | 27 | 32=100 |
| Independent | 28 | 40 | 32=100 |

PEW RESEARCH CENTER August 19-22, 2010.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

<http://pewforum.org/Muslim/Public-Remains-Conflicted-Over-Islam.aspx>

- Ground Zero mosque controversy
- anti-Muslim feeling on the rise
- many feel as unsafe as after 9/11
- Emergency religious summit

It is great to use maps or charts for images.
Remember to talk about what they show.

A CBS News poll in August: The survey of 1,082 adults conducted this week by CBS found just 24% of respondents had a "favorable" view of Islam. Nearly 40% said they had an "unfavorable" view of the second-largest religion on the planet, while 37% said they don't have an opinion on the faith.

point out things about the chart

Prominent Christian, Jewish and Muslim leaders held an extraordinary “emergency summit” meeting in the capital on Tuesday to denounce what they called “the derision, misinformation and outright bigotry” aimed at American Muslims during the controversy over the proposed Islamic community center near ground zero.

They say it could tear country apart and hurt our reputation for religious freedom, tolerance and diversity.

Include a big version of the cartoon so everyone can see it clearly



<http://cartoonbox.slate.com/index/?image=22>

Include a smaller version with your analysis
You must explain how a specific element is used and the overall viewpoint



<http://cartoonbox.slate.com/index/?image=22>

Irony: You'd expect Americans would not have a reputation as crazed extremists

Viewpoint: Recent controversies promote the dangerous stereotype that Americans hate Muslims

You must read/use **at least 2** news articles about your story

Sources

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-11223457>
- <http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/09/08/florida.quran.burning/index.html?hpt=T2>
- http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703713504575475500753093116.html?mod=WSJ_hpp_MIDDLENexttoWhatsNewsSecond
- <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB1000142405274870435890457547777021776173>

Each article you use should be cited with a full URL (link)